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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJEC7

Morchant Ship Traffic to Communist China

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SOURCE

- Since early January 1953, Polish merchant ships S.S. BALTYK, S.S. TODROK, S.S. KILINSKI and S.S. JEDNCSC were loading cargo for Communist China in Gdynia. 1 The ships S.S. PRZYSZLOSC I.S. WARTA, S.S. KOSCIUSZKO, S.S. MARWIK, S.S. FULASKI, M.S. MICKIELICZ and M.S. PRZYJAZN NARCDOW were on their way to, and the S.S. FRYDERYK CHCFIE and A.S. FOKCJ were homeward-bound from Communist China. The N.S. PRATERSTWO was still in Shanghai repairing serious damage by heavy gales.
- A shipping order for 1,000 tons of iron girders and 1,000 iron tubes for Communist China had been placed with the Bertling & Co firm in Hamburg which served as agency for Polish merchant ships. The firm planned to ship this cargo to Gdynia on the S.S. OLSZTYN on 25 January 1953 and to have it transshipped there to a China-bound ship. The iron was supplied by a firm in Peine in West Germany.
- In West Germany shipping orders for cargo bound for China were handled by the Westfrach firm which moved from Antwerp to a small office in Hamburg-Altona and which was seeking a large office in Hamburg. This firm which made export to China its exclusive business was headed by Van Ueterhoff (fnu) and was a branch of the Polish-Chinese Commerce Agency in Berlin.

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Comment. S.S. TOBRUK passed Brunsbuettelkoog with mixed cargo on 21 January 1953. Her captain said that Gibraltar would be her next harbor. The S.S. BALTYK passed Brunsbuettelkoog with mixed cargo on 19 January 1953. Her destination allegedly was Ceylon. The S.S. KILINSKI did not go to China; she passed Brunsbuettelkoog in ballast and proceeded to Antwerp.

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